MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

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Libyan-Soviet Relations

Libya and the Soviet Union have "agreed in principle" to sign a bilateral treaty of friendship and cooperation, according to a joint communique issued in Moscow and Libya at the end of Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud's visit to the Soviet Union. The communique, carried by Tripoli radio and TASS, said Jallud held "important and intensive" talks with Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Tikhonov and noted that separate discussions were held between Libyan Armed Forces Commander Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir and Defense Minister Dmitriy Ustinov and between Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi and Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko. Both sides affirmed their determination to deepen bilateral relations and stressed the importance of continuing regular personal contacts between Libyan and Soviet leaders, the communique added. On behalf of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Maj Jallud invited Tikhonov and CPSU General Secretary Yuriy Andropov to visit Libya.

Expressing "high appreciation" for each other's role in world affairs, the Soviet Union and Libya described U.S. plans to deploy medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe as a danger not only to Europe but also to the Mediterranean and Arab regions. The two sides denounced Israel and the "escalating American military presence and interference" in the Middle East and condemned the policy of "capitulation and separatist solutions" regarding the Palestine problem. The Soviet Union also condemned U.S. "provocations" against Libya and expressed support for and solidarity with Libya's right to defend its land, airspace, and territorial waters.

Libyan Atomic Energy Secretary 'Abd al-Qa'ud participated in the talks on bilateral economic and technical cooperation, according to TASS.

King Husayn in London; Peace Process

The situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories is "extremely dangerous" and little time remains before Israeli settlement activity creates "formidable obstacles" in the path of any possible progress toward peace, Jordanian King Husayn warned at a 19 March press conference in London broadcast by Amman television. Responding to a question about the Reagan plan, Husayn said the Arab side will know exactly where it stands on this issue "within a matter of days." In his remarks, which followed talks between the Arab League delegation and British officials, King Husayn praised the "just and constructive" attitude of Britain and European countries but said U.S. credibility regarding both Lebanon and the occupied territories is passing through a "difficult test." Noting that Israel has responded to the Reagan plan by intensifying settlement activity and by "acts of repression," Husayn said Israel has embarked on a program aimed at finally absorbing the occupied territories.

On inter-Arab affairs, Husayn said Egypt's relations with other Arab countries are already close and will inevitably improve swiftly despite the lack of formal relations between Egypt and most Arab states. Husayn noted that he had visited Egypt twice in the past when Jordan had no diplomatic relations with Egypt.

Apart from his talks with British officials, Husayn also met separately in London with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and presidential envoy Philip Habib, according to Amman television and radio reports.

Citing a senior figure in Husayn's entourage, the Israeli paper YEDI'OT AHARONOT reported that Husayn will shortly announce his willingness to join peace talks on condition that the United States brings about a halt to Israeli settlement activity.

Without knowing that his interlocutor was Israeli, the Arab official told the paper's correspondent that Jordan's tactics constitute a refusal to join the negotiations couched in a positive form. Meanwhile, an Amman radio commentary on Husayn's London press conference stressed that Jordan cannot be held responsible for the loss of time from which Israel is benefiting. Earlier, Israeli Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres called on both King Husayn and the Israeli Government to enter peace negotiations without preconditions, Jerusalem radio's Arabic service reported.

Lebanon

Lebanon Negotiations -- After Habib's talks with the Israeli foreign and defense ministers in Jerusalem on 20 March, several participants said progress was achieved although much work remains to be done, Jerusalem radio reported. Noting that the Israeli side presented Habib with Israel's response to the latest U.S. proposals, Jerusalem television said the Israeli position was formulated during lengthy ministerial consultations following a Cabinet meeting in which most ministers accepted Prime Minister Menahem Begin's view that the U.S. proposals can serve as a basis for a settlement and definitely merit discussion.

After returning to Beirut and briefing President Amin al-Jumayyil on his visit to the United States, former Lebanese Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam declared that he is more optimistic than before about the future of the situation in Lebanon, Beirut radio reported.

The Israeli-Lebanese-U.S. talks resumed in Netanya on 21 March with Lebanon and the United States submitting new proposals for security arrangements in southern Lebanon, Jerusalem radio reported.

Security Situation -- Responding to U.S. Marine Colonel James Meade's accusations that the IDF's "lack of fire discipline" is endangering civilians and Marines near Beirut, the IDF spokesman said Israel is already used to "baseless charges" by the Marines. He stressed that Israeli patrols do not open fire in populated areas and that all their shooting is "controlled fire," according to Jerusalem radio. The IDF spokesman also discounted Lebanese claims that five civilians were killed last month by indiscriminate IDF fire, saying that the IDF knows nothing of any Lebanese civilian casualties caused by Israeli fire. Earlier, Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens called for measures to counteract the present "unsatisfactory" liaison arrangements between the IDF and the Marines, according to an Israeli Defense Ministry announcement carried by ITIM.

Jerusalem radio said an IDF soldier was wounded by gunfire southeast of Beirut on 18 March. The clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio claimed that five Israelis were killed in the attack.

PLO Affairs

Khalil al-Wazir on POW's -- The PLO is ready to release and return all Israeli POW's if Israel announces its readiness to treat all Palestinian detainees as prisoners of war, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir announced in an interview broadcast by Amman television's Hebrew service on 19 March. He claimed that the Israelis have killed some 40 Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners in Ansar camp and accused the Israelis of withholding information about hundreds of missing Palestinians. Providing further details of the deaths of two Israeli prisoners, Al-Wazir said that after the two Israelis were captured by two Palestinians and a Lebanese sympathizer, all five men were killed when an Israeli tank fired at their car passing through the Monteverdi area of East Beirut on 15 December.

Israeli Reaction -- The IDF spokesman confirmed that two "terrorists" and one Lebanese were killed in a mid-February incident in Monteverdi but denied that Israelis were hit in it, Jerusalem television reported. Regarding Al-Wazir's condition for the release of the eight Israeli prisoners, Israel's attorney general has already declared that Israel cannot recognize "terrorists" as prisoners of war, the television added.

PLO Executive Committee Decisions -- The PLO Executive Committee has resolved to implement the military unity of the Palestinian resistance within the framework of the Palestinian Liberation Army, according to a KUNA report on the outcome of the 3-day Executive Committee meeting in Tunis which ended on 20 March. The committee also adopted decisions to confront Israel's settlement policy and decided to send memoranda on this issue and on Israeli plans against Al-Aqsa Mosque to the UN Security Council and the Arab League's Jerusalem Committee, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported earlier. Meanwhile, a PLO spokesman in Tunis announced that the PLO strongly condemns the "premeditated Israeli aggression" against U.S. and Italian multinational force soldiers in Lebanon, Tunis radio reported.

Soviet Warning to Israel

The Soviet Union has warned Israel through the United States not to attack the modern missiles stationed in Syria, according to Jerusalem radio. A senior Soviet official said that if Israel does attack the missiles the Soviet Union has a reaction plan, the radio reported citing the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Jerusalem Committee Meeting -- An emergency meeting of the Jerusalem Committee under the chairmanship of Morocco's King Hassan II will be held on 3 April in Morocco to discuss the "grave situation" resulting from repeated attacks on Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, SPA announced on 19 March.

Algerian-Tunisian Relations -- Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba signed a friendship treaty and a border demarcation agreement during Bendjedid's 3-day visit to Tunisia, Algiers radio reported citing an Algerian-Tunisian joint communique issued on 20 March. The two sides agreed to intensify meetings between officials and technical experts and stressed the importance of joint projects to develop the border area and turn it into a "bridge that unites the interests of the two countries."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Two Iraqi naval vessels were destroyed during an Iranian joint naval and Air Force operation in the Persian Gulf, according to a 19 March Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio. In another development French Deputy Defense Minister Jean Martre affirmed that France and Iraq recently signed an agreement according to which France will supply Baghdad with "about 69 planes of the Super Entendard type and Exocet missiles," the Saudi paper AL-BILAD disclosed on 16 March.

Pakistan

Martial law authorities imposed a curfew in the Liaquatabad area as troops were called in to control sectarian rioting between Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims on 19 March during which 2 people were killed and 144 were arrested, according to AFP and Karachi radio reports.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS EXAMINES 1983-84 BUDGET

LD182116 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Excerpts] The routine general session of the DRA Council of Ministers was held today in the headquarters of the Council of Ministers. At this session, the drafts for the socioeconomic development plan and the DRA budget for 1983-84 were considered and also a number of appointment were approved.

At the start of the session, the DRA national anthem was played, and then Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, opened with a speech on the work of the session:

[Begin recording] Esteemed comrades: Today the Council of Ministers will consider the most important issues in the country's economic life, that is, the draft plans for the DRA's socioeconomic development and the budget for 1983-84. These issues are considered on the eve of the convocation of the 11th PDPA Central Committee Plenum, which is to discuss economic issues. In these drafts, the new duties for the country's economic development, consolidation of planning systems, finance and banking are envisaged to strengthen the leadership role of the party in economic construction.

In the last year, we succeeded, despite difficulties and [word indistinct] shortages -- including limitations in material and financial reserves, and damage and difficulties arising from the undeclared war by reaction and imperialism against our country -- in designing and implementing socioeconomic development plans and realistic state budgets. During the drafting and preparation of the plan and state budget for 1983-84, many difficulties existed. However, maximum implementation is envisaged from the available possibilities.

In accordance with the agenda, we will now consider the country's socioeconomic development plan and state budget for 1983-84. [end recording]

Khalil Ahmad Abawi, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee, then gave a report on the draft socioeconomic development plan for 1983-84

Finance Minister Abdol Wakil, reported on the DRA draft budget for 1983-84 and Abdol Wahab Safi, minister of justice and attorney general, reported on laws and regulations.

Following the reports, the text of the relevant drafts which specifically determine the duties of each ministry and government department was read by the head of administration and regulation of affairs of the Council of Ministers and were unanimously endorsed and approved.

At the end of the session, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand evaluated as positive the work of today's session:

[Begin recording] Esteemed comrades: At today's session of the Council of Ministers, we have considered the country's draft socioeconomic development plan and the state budget for 1983-84. We have given specific instructions for their implementation and have prepared both drafts for final consideration and approval by the DRA Revolutionary Council.

On the basis of scientific planning, in most recent years, it has been possible to strengthen the country's defense capability and to take useful measures for the benefit of workers, peasants, civil servants, and other [word indistinct]. However, the undeclared war unleashed against the DRA by international imperialism led by U.S. imperialism and its reactionary henchmen requires the expenditure of an immense amount of extra money for further consolidating the country's defense capability and crushing the exported bands of counterrevolutionaries.

Nonimplementation of the gross domestic production plan in some instances is caused by unsatisfactory climatic conditions and scarcity of water, which have had a negative effect on agriculture. In such cases, the difficulties arising from economic backwardness, inherited from past regimes, should also be considered.

As a result of the shortages of electricity, raw materials, and fuels, several factories in recent years could not operate at full capacity. It should also be recalled that there is no necessary order or discipline in the productivity and circulation of material goods and money.

The freeze on credits from the International Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, other international organizations, and some of the capitalist countries in recent years has to some extent had a negative effect on the implementation of the development budget. The share of these credits, which in 1978-79 was 14 percent in the development budget, in 1982-83 reached 2 percent, that is seven times less. However, in the meanwhile, the disinterested assistance of the USSR and other member countries of CEMA was increased by a significant amount and decisively helped us in the implementation of the socioeconomic development plans and in better regulating the ordinary and development budget of the state.

Owing to the relentless activities of party and government organs and also to the assistance of friendly countries, particularly the USSR, the ill intention of the enemies of the April Revolution aiming to cause destruction, obstruction, and a productivity crisis was foiled. Proof of this is that the state plan and budget for 1983-84 contain new features in addition to regular items.

The major economic indices for the 1983-84 plan signify an improvement in our national economy. Gross domestic production in 1983-84 in comparison with the current year will increase by 6.6 percent and the gross national product by 4.4 percent national income also will rise by 5.9 percent in comparison with the current year which will be 118.9 billion afghanis.

In agriculture, the main issue is to increase production of foodstuffs and industrial raw materials for light and [word indistinct] industries and to increase production for export.

Gross agricultural production will increase by 1.8 billion afghanis in 1983-84 in comparison with this year and will reach 88.2 billion afghanis.

In industry and energy, it is planned to increase industrial production, reactivate idle projects, and eliminate the shortages of electrical energy in a number of factories by installing diesel generators and forming well-equipped maintenance groups. The production of electrical energy will increase by 112 percent and coal production by 103.6 percent in 1983-1984 in comparison with 1982-83.

It is important that we economize in the use of oil. Efforts must be made to substitute part of the oil with coal. Plans for the general [word indistinct] of electrical energy is one of the major tasks and the State Planning Committee is to prepare a draft plan on the balanced use of oil and electrical energy on a national scale.

The rapid development of the government transport network, parallel with the private sector, for the transportation of goods, including petroleum products, is also envisaged.

Communication links with the capitals of the provinces will be properly developed. It is also necessary for communication links in the provinces to be [word indistinct]. In the coming year, television transmitters will be installed in seven provinces.

In 1983-84, it is planned to invest 12.47 billion afghanis in the framework of the state budget for developing projects, which is 15.2 percent more than the development budget for this year. In addition, 2.2 billion afghanis will be invested as long-term state credit for development.

The projects, which are of primary economic importance in considering the feasibility of agreements and economic and technical studies as well as the availability of credits and grant-in-aid assistance of the friendly countries and international organizations, are being embodied in the plan.

To centralize investment in the important projects and to make them ready for production, there will only be 36 new projects. A number of uncompleted projects where the progress of work in 1983-84 is not feasible are to be closed down.

The plan envisages 253 projects including 181 projects which are transitional and 36 new projects. Another 36 projects are in the planning stages.

It is envisaged that 103 projects to be partially or fully completed, including 36 projects, will begin production. In this respect, we can mention the textile mills of Herat and Qandahar; a Jalalabad factory; [words indistinct] of Kabul City; three electric power stations in Feyzabad, Laghman, and Paktia; Mazar-e Sharif silo; two stations for technical services in Hyrataan and Pol-e Khomri; [words indistinct] and the first stage of Kabul City water supply.

In commerce, it is planned to circulate retail commodities valued at 13.816 billion afghanis, which is 12 percent more than the 1982-83 plan. On the side of commerce in the private sector, the state and cooperative trade network will be expanded.

As mentioned by Comrade Abdol Wakil, minister of finance, the state budget for 1983-84 has been drafted and prepared under difficult circumstances from the viewpoint of the country's financial situation. However, financial possibilities cannot fully meet our needs. It must be pointed out that despite taking specific measures in the state budget for 1983-84, we have not succeeded in balancing our income and expenses. Such a situation requires that new financial sources be sought. It is worth mentioning that the ministries and departments had prepared the drafts of their 1983-84 budget which amounted to more than 60 billion afghanis but after careful study by the Ministry of Finance, the above sum was reduced to 31.6 billion afghanis, that is to say, by 50 percent.

This situation shows that the ministeries and our departments are still not considering responsibly their real needs within the economic and financial situation of the country.

Comrades, we must strengthen the discipline of the state and financial planning. Serious measures must be taken in the field of expenses from the state budget so that economization and effectiveness are secured. Each afghani of state funds must be spent by counting and with care. From the viewpoint of finance, many shortcomings exist in the work of the ministries and departments. These must be removed. The ministries do not seriously control their respective enterprise. As a result, there is low government discipline and economic leadership in the enterprises and the income and payment plans are not made on time.

Esteemed comrades, allow me to express satisfaction that the ministries and government departments in 1983-84 are taking more effective measures to improve their activities. The successful application of the plan and state budget for the coming year will be another step forward for the progress of the country's national economy.

Of course, this will not solve all our present difficulties but suitable possibilities exist for the gradual progress of the economy and the consolidation of the financial situation of the country. First, we have rich natural resources and productive land. Second, the cooperation and all-round fraternal assistance of the USSR and other socialist countries guarantee our progress. Third, the workers of our country are the principle and great force for the construction of our society.

Comrades, in the name of victory and economic progress, we are going ahead. Thank you. [end recording]

PDPA PLENUM DISCUSSES 'URGENT ECONOMIC ISSUES'

LD200030 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] The 11th PDPA Central Committee Plenum on the party's immediate duties regarding the solution of urgent economic issues in the light of the nationwide PDPA conference, was convened at 1000 today in Kabul City.

The arrival in the hall of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, was welcomed enthusiastically by those attending the meeting. He then officially opened the work of the plenum. After the unanimous approval of the plenum agenda, Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chaired the session and asked Babrak Karmal to read out the plenum's basic statement concerning the party's immediate duties regarding the implementation of the economic policy embodied in the PDPA action program. Babrak Karmal read out the plenum's basic statement, which took about 2 hours, and which was welcomed warmly by the plenum participants.

In his speech, Babrak Karmal said: The issue to be raised today at the PDPA Central Committee Plenum is immensely important. We can even say vitally important for the country and our party. The urgent economic issues of our revolution and the party's economic policy were seriously and carefully discussed in the nationwide PDPA conference. This subject has been reflected in the conference document, and prior to this in its principle document, the PDPA action program.

Babrak Karmal said the present condition of the economy does not satifactorily meet the needs of the government and people from the viewpoint of agricultural and industrial products and financial incomes. During the 5 years since the revolution, a large amount of work has been done. However, this has not boosted expansion or further improved the economy, the material pillar of our society. As in other progressive societies, revolutionary activity, the creation of a new improved life for the people, is not possible without the immediate progress of agriculture, industry, transport, commerce, construction, and extraction.

Babrak Karmal added that ideological work must increase its links with economic life and the activity of the party and government in the economic field. The party's policy must be understandable to the broad masses of the people and must rally them in the task of restoration and economic progress. Honors and gains in work must always be broadcast and introduced in the mass media. It is time for regular and planned basic economic knowledge, theoretical and practical, to be specifically organized for party cadres.

Babrak Karmal continued: The great and powerful USSR gives great and valuable economic assistance to our country. Our enemies are vainly making an issue of the existence of the limited Soviet military units in our country. They may make vociferous propaganda, but they cannot succeed in hiding the truth. Soviet economic, scientific, and technical assistance to our country has positive and useful effects on the process of normalization and on the solution of the country's crucial economic problems. The text of Babrak Karmal's speech will be published in the mass media.

At the end of the plenum's basic statement, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, delivered a speech on urgent duties for the implementation of the PDPA action program in the field of economic construction.

In his speech, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said: Under present conditions and circumstances, a formidable duty is in front of us -- the strengthening and expansion of the revolutionary foundations, particularly from the economic viewpoint. We must take the necessary measures to expedite the task of restoring the industrial and agricultural sectors of the economy, in circumstances of continuing interference, so that the workers can perceive the results of the revolution, its [word indistinct], material and intellectural gains. The text of Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand's speech also will be published in the mass media.

The second part of the meeting, chaired by Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, discussed the basic statement. Mohamed Isma'il Danesh, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of mines and industries; Zohur Razmjoy, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of Kabul City Party Committee; Neyaz Mohammad Mohmand, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and head of the Central Committee Economic Department; Abdol Wakil, member of the party Central Committee and minister of finance; Raz Mohammad Paktin, member of the party Central Committee and minister of water and power; Sher Jan Mazduryar, member of the party Central Committee and minister of transport; Abdol Ghaffar Lakanwal, candidate member of the party Central Committee and minister of agriculture and land reform; Mehrabudin Paktiawal, head of the Afghanistan Bank; Ahmad Shah Sorkhabi, minister of irrigation; Mahbob Purdel, secretary of Helmand Provincial Party Committee; Mohammad Sharif, secretary of the Balkh Province Provincial Party Committee, all spoke at this part of the session and expressed their decisive support for the plenum's basic statement.

At the end of this discussion on the basic statement, the draft resolution of the 11th PDPA Central Committee Plenum was read by Nur Ahmad Nur, which after discussion was unanimously approved.

At the end of the plenum's work, Babrak Karmal positively evaluated the role of the 11th PDPA Central Committee Plenum regarding the execution of the party's immediate duties for the implementation of the economic policy embodied in the PDPA action program. A number of the members of the DRA Council of Ministers, heads of areas, and secretaries of Provincial Party Committees were invited to take part in the work of the plenum. The plenum ended at about 1700.

OFFICIALS ATTEND PARTY REPORTING SESSIONS

LD210800 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] Kabul, March 20, BAKHTAR -- The reporting session of the primary party organization of the Council of Ministers was held with the participation of Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA CC Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and 'Abdol Majid Sarboland, member of the party CC and deputy chairman of the council, at the headquarters of the Council of Ministers on Thursday March 17.

The secretary of the organization presented the main report on its activities and performance in implementing the decisions of the countrywide party conference and the plenums of the PDPA CC.

Assessment and criticism were made on the shortcomings of the party organization in the report. Two of the participants, in their speeches, presented constructive proposals for overcoming the problems and shortcomings.

Then, Keshtmand spoke on the significance of convocation of the reporting sessions in the political life of the party in accordance with the charter of the party and the demands of the 10th plenum of the party CC. He also urged the participants to fulfill carefully the duties assigned to the party organizations by the countrywide party conference and the party CC plenums.

After discussion and issuance of useful directives by Keshtmand, the draft of the resolution of the session was endorsed unanimously, after incorporating the new proposals.

According to other reports, similar sessions were held last Wednesday by many other party primary organizations in Kabul City.

The session of the party primary organization was attended by Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA CC Politburo and president of the WDOA [Democratic Women's Organization], of the Power Ministry by Dastagir Panjshiri, member of the PDPA CC Politburo and president of the DRA Union of Writers, of the Air and Air Defence Command by Zohur Razmjo, alternate member of the Party CC Politburo and secretary of the Kabul City Party Committee, of the Fourth Armoured Command by Mohammad Yassen Sadeqi, secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Political Affairs Department of the Armed Forces, of the Technical Supply Command of the National Defence Ministry by Burhan Ghiasi, member of the party CC and first secretary of the DYOA, [Democratic Youth Organization] CC, of Armoured Command No. 15 by Lt-Gen Baba Jan, alternate member of the party CC and the chief of General Staff of the ministry, of Khost Division No. 15 by Shazar Lival, member of the party CC and the chief of the South Zone, and Rashid Wazari, alternate member of the party CC and deputy minister of nationalities and tribal affairs, of the General Command of Frontier Forces by Honur Ghairat, alternate member of the party CC and deputy in charge of the organization of department of the party CC, of Brigade No. 62 and Regiment No. 7 by the president of the Publicity, Extension and Education Department of the Political Affairs General Department of the Armed Forces.

Main reports on the activities and performance of the political sections and party primary organization in implementation of the decisions of the party CC were presented.

The participants held discussions on the reports and made criticism on the shortcomings of their respective organizations in a fully democratic atmosphere.

The sessions ended with resolutions on the future duties of the party organizations and members.

According to another report, 'Abdol Rashid Arian, in charge of the control commission of the party CC, attended a similar meeting held by the party activists of the air and air defence academy recently.

ERSHAD ON DELHI TALKS WITH DRA, OTHER LEADERS

BK181405 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 13 Mar 83 p 1, 12

[Excerpt] The Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] Lt. Gen. H.M. Ershad who returned home on Saturday after attending the Seventh Non-aligned Summit in New Delhi hoped that the Non-aligned Movement would help in striking balance in this strife-ridden world faced with super power rivalry.

Talking to newsmen at Zia International Airport General Ershad observed that the Non-aligned Movement had emerged stronger after the New Delhi summit. The leader of Bangladesh delegation appreciated the arrangement for the summit by India within a short time and he termed it as "remarkable."

Referring to the deliberations and proposals of the summit General Ershad said that the New Delhi summit had paved way for solving a number of important international issues. The summit, he added, had made significant contribution to find out a solution to the Iraq-Iran war, withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan, Kampuchea and Lebanon, starting of global round of negotiations and declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

General Ershad who led the Bangladesh delegation to the summit said that the member countries of the Non-aligned Movement had appreciated the significant role played by Bangladesh in the Delhi summit. He said that Bangladesh had made several proposals in both the Political and Economic Committees of the summit and most of those were incorporated in the final declaration. He said that as chairman of Group of 77 Bangladesh played a vital role in incorporating certain proposals in the final declaration on North-South, South-South and the global round of negotiations.

The CMLA made special reference to President Reagan's letter to him a few days before the summit where the U.S. attitude on global round of negotiations was vindicated. He said that it was for the first time the United States had expressed in details her ideas on global economy. He said that the United States had realised the bad economic situation in the world and it had now acknowledged the need for undertaking immediate measures in certain areas like food, agriculture, energy, currency and finance. The United States, he said, had expressed interest to increase the amount of special drawing rights (SDR) under IMF and consider the need for enhancing the power of international loan payment.

General Ershad hoped that the efforts made by the Islamic peace committee in Delhi summit to end the Iran-Iraq war would be crowned with success. He said that Bangladesh and PLO were given the responsibility to contact Iraq will Pakistan and Malaysia would negotiate with Iran.

Referring to his separate meetings with heads of state, government and delegations of 42 countries during his stay in New Delhi the CMLA said that his talks with these leaders centered round matters of bilateral interests. He strongly believed that the talks would help in improving bilateral relations with those countries.

General Ershad said that his meeting with the leaders of Afghanistan and Kampuchean delegations had helped in removing Bangladesh's misunderstanding with those countries. He hoped that following his talks with prime minister of Afghanistan, which helped Bangladesh during the war of liberation, there would be "normal relations" between the two Muslim countries. He said that Bangladesh had been maintaining diplomatic relations with Kabul and "national position should not stand on our relations," he added.

The CMLA believed that his talks with the leader of the delegation of Vietnam in New Delhi would help in removing the existing misunderstandings between the two countries. He said that there should not be any rift in our relations and he was happy that Hanoi indicated to reopen its embassy in Dhaka soon. He said that Vietnam had expressed interest to develop trade relations with Bangladesh particularly in the field of jute.

The CMLA disclosed that President Ziaul Haq and Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan of Pakistan would visit Bangladesh in near future. Replying to a question the CMLA said that he had not raised the Bangladesh's candidature for OIC's [Organization of Islamic Countries] secretary general post and the repatriation of Pakistani nationals from Bangladesh in talks with President Ziaul Haq.

The CMLA announced that following his discussions with the leaders of Tunisia, Nigeria, Guyana, Argentina and Guinea-Bissau it was decided to establish diplomatic missions with these countries. He disclosed that Bangladesh and the UAE would soon set up a joint economic commission and Bangladesh's relations with Kuwait and Bahrain would be more closer in view of his talks with the leaders of these countries. It was also decided that a high powered delegation would soon visit Algeria from Bangladesh to explore the possibility of cooperation in the field of natural gas, the CMLA said.

General Ershad was happy to note that the New Delhi summit had provided an opportunity to exchange views at the highest level on major economic and political problems of 101 member countries of the Non-aligned Movement that covers more than two third population of the world. We have learnt a lot and earned immense experience from the summit, he told newsmen.

Asked how he felt to attend the non-aligned summit as an unelected head of the government General Ershad said: "It is more respectable to attend as an elected leader." But he was happy that he represented the nation. Replying to a question whether he intends to participate in the Eighth Non-aligned Summit to be held in 1986 as elected leader the CMLA gave a benign smile and said: "The summit is still far away."

ALL ARRESTED IN 14-15 FEB VIOLENCE ORDERED FREED

BK190812 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] The chief martial law administrator has ordered release of all students and other persons taken into custody in connection with the incidents of the 14th and the 15th of last month. BANGLADESH SANGBAD SANGSTHA says the order has been given as a gesture of good will and in view of the coming Independence Day celebrations. General Ershad has also expressed [words indistinct] concern over the postponement of various university examinations previously scheduled for (?this period). He desired that these examinations be held as early as possible and hoped that the gesture of the government will help create congenial atmosphere for reopening of the universities.

REPORTAGE ON SITUATION IN ASSAM 18-21 MARCH

Minister Cites Border Measures

BK181449 Hong Kong AFP in English 1448 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Text] New Delhi, March 13 (AFP) -- Assam's administrative chief, Hiteshwar Saikia, today announced a series of measures to seal the state's border with Bangladesh and said the Indian Army would remain in the strategic northeastern state as long as required.

"I am not in a position to say when the Army will be withdrawn...It depends on the situation," Mr Saikia told a press conference here, his first since he assumed the administrative leadership of Assam.

He added that border patrols had been increased and that the state's police inspector general had been asked to camp near the international boundary. He said border outposts had also been increased.

"We are certainly going to prevent any infiltration of immigrants from Bangladesh and we will see that not a single immigrant comes again," he said.

He also announced that his administration, which is now run by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress (I) Party, would soon start detection of immigrants who crossed over to Assam after 1971.

He said tribunals would be set up to check electoral rolls in all of the 126 assembly constituencies and evidence would be gathered to determine the status of a person.

Strenuous opposition by indigenous Assamese to the inscription of immigrants on electoral rolls triggered an orgy of communal violence during state assembly elections in Assam last month.

Mr. Saikai said a state team was busy working out the modality for detection and added he would hand over the list of illegal immigrants to the federal government which in turn will decide what to do with them.

"They will be driven out, but how and where I do not know. It is the job of the central (federal) government," the 44-year-old former school teacher- turned-politician said.

Bangladesh has already announced it will not accept any of its former citizens from Assam. Informed sources said the immigrants would be settled in other Indian states.

Assam militant movement leaders had earlier rejected a similar federal government proposal to fix 1971 as the cut off year. Mr. Saikia, however, said he would go ahead with the detection even if the anti-immigrant movement leaders rejected it.

"The people in Assam are fed up with discussions for the last three years...Time has come for us to do something concrete," he said.

Discussing the death toll from last month's violence in the state, he indicated that according to his records based on body count "1,113 people were killed and about 2,000 were reported missing." He, however, said the missing were presumed to be dead.

Federal Interior Minister P.C. Sethi said in the national parliament yesterday that 1,334 people were killed in February alone in Assam.

Explosions, Clashes Reported

BK200859 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Mar 83

[Text] There were a series of bomb explosions in different parts of Assam during the last 36 hours. Official sources said in Guahati that besides three in the state capital there were two at Bongaigaon in Goalpara District and one each at Phulgiri, Diphu, Tezpur, Udalguri, Kamalpur, (Maligaon), and Mariani. Nine persons were injured at Mariani and one at (Maligaon). Some houses were burnt down at Sootea in Darrang District by some miscreants.

Our Guahati correspondent says that three persons were injured in group clashes at Ferighat at Panpur in Darrang District.

Assembly Session Begins

BK210326 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] The first session of the newly-elected Assam assembly begins at Dispur today. The session will continue until the 5th of next month and will sit for 10 days.

Mr (Mohammad Mohiuddin), a senior member of the house, has been appointed speaker pro tem to conduct the business of the house until the election of the new speaker. Mr (Mohiuddin) was sworn in as pro tem speaker at Raj Bhavan [governor house] last evening by the governor, Mr Prakash Mehrotra. The new speaker of the assembly will be elected today after the taking of the oath by members. The governor will address the house in the afternoon. The state's annual budget for 1983-84 and the proposal for vote on accounts will be presented tomorrow.

Meanwhile, 11 people were killed and several others injured in violent clashes at (Laltapur) village in Panpur area of Darrang District yesterday. Some people were reported missing. An official report says that the mob also set some houses on fire. The clashes followed an attack on some ferry passengers at Panpur Ghat on the previous day in which three persons were killed and another was seriously injured. An indefinite curfew was clamped in Tezpur municipalty and some adjoining areas at 5 o'clock this morning as a preventive measure following tension over the Panpur incident. The Army staged a flag march in the town this morning.

A number of bomb explosions were also reported from different places since yesterday. The State Chief Secretary Mr Ramesh Chandra said that security measures have been tightened all over the state in view of the violent incidents and a call for noncooperation given by the Assam agitation leaders today.

The chief minister, Mr Hiteshwar Saikia, has again appealed to the people to maintain peace and communal harmony so that relief operations in the affected areas can be intensified. Speaking to All India Radio Dibrugarh correspondent, he urged the people to work together for the prosperity of the state. Mr Saikia said that most of the people taking refuge in various relief camps have shown their eagerness to go back to their respective places. Some of them have already left the camps, he added. The chief minister also visited Jorhat and discussed with district officials the law and order situation in Sibsagar District and progress of relief and rehabilitation program undertaken in the district.

PRESS NOTES ISSUED ON 18 MARCH KARACHI VIOLENCE

2 Killed, 35 Injured

BK190737 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] A press note issued by the Karachi administration last night says the [word indistinct] action committee organized a condolence meeting after the Friday prayers at the Imam Bargah [Shi'ite religious site] in Liaqatabad. Advertisements were published in this connection in some newspapers. As a result, about 3,000 people assembled at the Imam Bargah at about 1400 in the afternoon. However, the condolence meeting was converted into an illegal protest meeting. Some of the crowd became incited and started throwing stones at residents and policemen stationed in the area. The residents responded to these provocations by throwing stones back.

The press note says the police used tear gas to disperse quarrelsome elements from both sides and brought the situation under control. However, the residents of the area gathered on the street across from the Imam Bargah. Both sides took part in stone throwing and a scuffle broke out. Meanwhile, some people started firing from inside the Imam Bargah. As a result of the firing and the scuffle, two people were killed and 35 injured, including 4 policemen. The incited residents set fire to two shops and four vehicles. The crowd later was dispersed and the situation brought under control. The press note adds that so far 16 arrests have been made. The government has ordered a judicial enquiry into the incident to be conducted a by a high court judge.

Curfew Imposed

BK191035 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] A press note issued by the local administration in Karachi today says that in addition to the 16 arrests reported earlier in connection with yesterday's incident at the Markazi Imam Bargah, Liaqatabad, another 111 persons have been taken into custody from the scene of disturbance.

Those arrested include six from the Shi'ite action committee, namely, (Mchammad Hasan Torabi), (Mohammad Bilal), (Syed Nazrul Hasnain), (Mohammad Musa), (Mirza Yusuf Hasan), and (Mirza Sadeq Hussain). Three revolvers, 26 daggers, 17 bullets, 1 sword, 1 magazine of firearms with bullets, and 17 bottles of acid also were recovered from the premises of the Imam Bargah as a result of a search made by the police during the night and early this morning. Another revolver was recovered earlier from the close vicinity of the Imam Bargah. The Markazi Imam Bargah, Liaqatabad, has been taken into protective custody by the police with immediate effect. Police have been ordered to do intensive patrolling of the area to check lawless elements.

Curfew has been imposed from 4 pm today within the jurisdiction of Liaqatabad police station of Karachi.

Arrested Total 144

BK191738 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] The Karachi administration issued a press note tonight, which said in the Liaqatabad area there were incidents of attempted arson. Four shops, six buses, and one movie were damaged. One watchmaker's shop was partly gutted. There were two exchanges of fire between rival groups.

Out of 72 persons who received injuries during the incidents and were admitted to hospital, 29 have been discharged after first aid. One person has died. Seventeen people were arrested during the day, bringing the total of those arrested since yesterday to 144.

No untoward incident has been reported from the area since curfew was imposed at 1600 today. All these incidents were restricted to the Liaqatabad area, and the situation in other parts of the city remains normal. Curfew will be relaxed from 0700 to 0900 and from 1600 to 1800 tomorrow.

Situation 'Generally Peaceful'

BK201602 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 20 Mar 83

[Text] A press note issued by the Karachi administration a short while ago said that barring a few scattered unlawful incidents, the situation in the city during the last 24 hours remained generally peaceful. A crowd damaged some residential property in Sector B-11 of North Karachi, but the police intervened and used tear gas to disperse the crowd. The crowd then began to throw stones, injuring one assistant subinspector and six constables. A total of 21 people was arrested.

There was an incident of attempted arson in the (Fatimabad) area, but residents immediately brought the fire under control. In some scattered incidents, certain vagabond youths tried to set old tires on fire and pelted vehicles with stones. Shops and business centers in certain areas of the city remained closed.

Eight people were arrested today during investigation into Friday's and Saturday's incidents, raising the number of arrested to 213.

In the Liaqatabad area, the curfew will again be relaxed tomorrow from 0700 to 0900 from 1600 to 1800. The curfew was relaxed today in the Liaqatabad area from 0700 to 0900 and from 1600 to 1800.

CURFEW RELAXED IN LIAQATABAD AREA 21 MARCH

BK210616 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] The curfew was relaxed in the Liaqatabad police station area of Karachi this morning between 0700 and 0900. No report of any untoward incident was received from the area during that time. The curfew will also be relaxed between 1600 and 1800 this afternoon.

TWO TO BE TRIED FOR DISTRIBUTING LEAFLETS

BK210222 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] Two people were arrested for distributing provocative sectarian leaflets and pasting posters in Karachi yesterday. They will be tried under Regulation 18 of martial law. The government has reminded that the publication and distribution of such materials violate Regulation 18 of martial law.

REPORTS ON SOVIET CONSTRUCTION MINISTER'S VISIT

Bakin Promises Continued Assistance

BK191018 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] The Soviet Union will continue economic cooperation and assistance with Pakistan on the basis of friendship. This was stated by Soviet Construction Minister B.V. Bakin while talking to newsmen upon his arrival in Islamabad from Karachi last night. He said the construction of steel mills is the best example of friendship between the two countries. He said the Soviet Union will consider all suggestions regarding the new projects not only in the (?steel) industry but in all other industries. The Soviet minister, who is leading a five-member high-level delegation on a visit to Pakistan, today will hold talks with the finance minister on the possibility of further increasing economic cooperation between Pakistan and the Soviet Union.

Economic Cooperation Discussed

BK191639 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] The visiting high-level Soviet delegation led by Construction Minister B.V. Bakin exchanged views with Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan on future economic cooperation between Pakistan and the Soviet Union in Islamabad today.

The Soviet delegation agreed in principle with those plans for which Pakistan wants economic and technical aid from the Soviet Union. These plans include the early supply of essential equipment by the Soviet Union for the Karachi steel mills and the consolidation of the steel mills' construction base, use of the steel mills' byproducts in the private sector, and the supply of the drilling [word indistinct].

Both sides also agreed to study the matter of acquiring three units of 210 megawatts for the Multan thermal power station from the Soviet Union. Technical details and conditions for economic aid for these plans will be determined very soon by a joint meeting of experts.

Minister Calls on President Zia

BK191757 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Test] The visiting Soviet delegation led by the minister for maintenance and special construction, B.V. Bakin, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening. They exchanged views on matters relating to economic and technological cooperation between Pakistan and the Soviet Union. The call was followed by a dinner hosted by the president.

Bakin, Yaqub Khan Meet

BK201259 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 20 Mar 83

[Text] The Soviet minister for maintenance and special construction work, Mr B.V. Bakin, called on the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, in Islamabad today. He was accompanied by two members of his delegation and the Soviet ambassador to Pakistan. They exchanged views on matters of mutual interest.

The foreign minister expressed his appreciation for the work done at the Pakistan steel mills. He hoped that the visit of the Soviet delegation would further strengthen cooperation between the two countries.

The Soviet minister expressed gratitude to Pakistan for the invitation extended to his delegation to attend the inauguration of the steel-making complex at Karachi. He said the complex was a landmark in Pakistan-Soviet relations.

JORDANIAN MILITARY OFFICIAL ARRIVES ON VISIT

BK191550 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] The chief of staff of the Royal Jordanian Armed Forces, Major General (Hafiz 'Abd at-Talif), arrived in Rawalpindi today on a week's visit to Pakistan. Immediately after his arrival in Rawalpindi, he met with the vice chief of staff of the Army, General Sawar Khan, and exchanged views with him on matters of mutual interest.

Meeting With Defense Minister

BK210509 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] The chief of staff of the Royal Jordanian Armed Forces, Major General (Hafiz 'Abd at-Talif), called on Defense Minister Mir Ali Ahmad Talpur in Rawalpindi yesterday and held talks with him on matters of mutual interest. He met with the joint chiefs of staff committee chairman, General Mohammad Iqbal Khan, and the Naval chief, Admiral Karamat Rahman Niazi. He also visited the National Defense College.

INDIAN ENVOY ADVOCATES 'QUIET DIPLOMACY' ON KASHMIR

BK210505 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] Indian Ambassador to Pakistan K.D. Sharma has said that the commission recently set up by India and Pakistan will be of great help in the development of cooperation between the two countries and will start a new era of friendship and cordiality between them. He said at a function in Karachi yesterday that the Kashmir issue should be resolved through bilateral negotiations and, as he put it, through quiet diplomacy. He said the Simla agreement provides the best basis for the solution of the issue.

HASHEMI-RAFSANJANI: WE WILL RESIST OPEC DECISION

LD181412 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Excerpts] On the last Friday of the year 1361 [ending 20 March 1983], millions of our Muslim compatriots throughout the country took part in the glorious Friday prayers. Vast numbers of the Muslim and revolutionary people in Tehran took part in the unifying Friday prayers at the University of Tehran under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani devoted his second sermon to important national, regional, and world issues. The temporary Friday imam of Tehran noted the plots of the great powers at the Nonaligned Summit Conference:

[Begin recording] Unfortunately, East and West, the USSR and the United States, seem to be working exactly alike on this subject and it is very strange. We are a member of the Nonaligned Movement. We respect it. We try to make it stronger. We should try to purge it. And we should try to make this front powerful. But just look at the situation when this conference started. What kind of atmosphere prevailed for the Islamic Republic?

The people who were lackeys of the Soviet Union wanted to condemn us before the Americans and to praise Saddam. Those who said Saddam wants peace and Saddam has taken his forces out of Iran were lying, weren't they? Didn't they know that the forces were inside our territory? Didn't they know [words indistinct]? Didn't they know that he is an aggressor? Didn't they know that he had broken a rule of the nonaligned countries and has attacked a nonaligned country? They knew all that.

With all the rudeness that they could have mustered and with a revolutionary face, they lied at the conference and opened the eyes of the smaller countries. It created a strange atmosphere at the conference, which showed the USSR and the United States to be completely alike. The most interesting fact is that at the Nonaligned Summit Conference, Afghanistan, which is under Soviet occupation, Babrak Karmal, who is controlled by the Soviet Armed Forces, those people who with bare hands and despite their poverty and misery are fighting against the Afghan regime were forgotten and all attention was diverted toward us. Fortunately, as a result of the efforts of our delegation, that hostile atmosphere was dissipated. We are grateful that they came to their senses and did not include anything harmful in the resolution and, at least, they did not choose Baghdad as the venue for the next conference. Had they done so, I think it would have signalled the death of the Nonaligned Movement because nations would have regarded it as an injustice. We are grateful for this. However, we hope that in the future, as a result of our efforts, we will be able to carry out a purge in the Nonaligned Movement.

Concerning OPEC, our delegation tried very hard. May God render them success, because they tried very hard. However, we did not achieve our desired goal. The crime which the countries south of the Gulf -- Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the UAE -- have committed against the Islamic world and the service which they have rendered to imperialism, the oil guzzlers, and the arrogant of the world will not be forgotten in the history of the region and of the world, nor in the history of the oppressed people of the world. This is not something which we and other oppressed people can ignore and leave unavenged.

What they have done is this: If we imagine that on average 18 or nearly 20 million barrels of oil are produced each day and now they have reduced the price of each barrel by $5, it would mean that each day about $100 million and each month, about $40 billion, a figure which boggles the mind, $40 billion are taken out of the wealth of the people of the region by the countries of the region and given to America, England, France, Japan, Germany, and so forth. How can one explain this? What is being done to the world of Islam? This is hostility toward the Islamic Republic.

Of course, they are mistaken. They think the Islamic Republic will be defeated by such acts. We did not approve this. Our petroleum minister did not cast a vote. You know that according to OPEC rules, every decision should be approved unanimously. If one of the 13 members refrain from voting, the rule will not pass. They have ignored their own rules and reduced the price of oil. We announce that the Iranian Government will not agree to it. The Iranian Majlis will not accept it. Certainly, the Iranian leadership will not accept it. We will resist this OPEC decision as long as we can. We will start various attacks against this filthy move. Last year, they reduced the price to $34. This year they reduced it to $29. We do not know what they are up to. They are nothing but servants.

The strange thing is that Iraq which used to chant so many leftist and anti-imperialist slogans, the Iraqi representative in OPEC did not utter one word. They cannot utter a word. These wretched people have been so tied up and kept in bondage that they do not dare breathe about these issues. They commited this great treason against the world of Islam. In my Arabic sermon, I talked to the Arab nations about this issue. Our nation should also see how our country is under attack. In the Nonaligned Conference, they wanted to pressure us. Here, in a unified way, they are putting us under this economic pressure. They have given as much military assistance to Iraq as they could.

A very sad fact which has now become quite clear and which has caused us deep sorrow is that a number of our country's youths and children, some of whom have even spent some time in prison under the former regime, have been so deceived that they are clearly working on the front hostile to Iran.

OIL MINISTRY OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON OIL PRICE STUDY

GF191716 Tehran IRNA in English 1651 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] Tehran, March 19 (IRNA) -- Determination of the official price of Iranian oil is under consideration and the official prices will be announced after a full study, according to the international deputy of the Oil Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, 'Abbas Honardust.

Talking to IRNA here today, Dr. Honardust added that at the time when these prices are announced, the Islamic Republic of Iran would conclude contracts with the oil purchasers on the basis of the Iranian standards.

Saying that the prospect of talks with Japanese delegations for purchasing Iranian oil is hopeful, Honardust added that Japan had purchased 270,000 to 350,000 barrels of oil per day from Iran during the current Iranian year, commencing March 21, 1982.

He further said that after the announcement of official prices Iran will then specify a date for the visit of Japanese delegations to Iran to talk about their purchase of Iranian oil.

'PEYKAR MINIGROUP' MEMBERS EXECUTED IN ESFAHAN

GF171148 Esfahan Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Statement issued by Esfahan prosecutor's office -- date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Kill them so that plotting and decadence is erased from the face of the earth and everyone observes the religion of the Almighty. We cannot now deal with the counterrevolution in a manner to let them assemble tomorrow and create a problem for Iran -- Imam Khomeyni.

The Esfahan Islamic Revolution Court convened to look into the cases of three members of the Peykar minigroup -- a U.S. puppet -- and sentenced three to execution on 22 December and 12 January. The verdicts were carried out on 10 March following approval by the Supreme Judicial Council.

According to the report, the verdicts were:

I. Parvaneh Emam, daughter of Abolkhosuf, using the aliases Azar, (?Zohreh), Fatemeh, and Mahnaz, a student of Esfahan Technical University and a citizen of [name indistinct] and a resident of Tehran, was accused of an uprising against the system of the Islamic Republic through:

A. Organizational ties with the atheist Peykar organization since 1980;

B. Employment in Esfahan's (Vayan) factory and [words indistinct] with the approval of the Central Committee of Peykar as a laborer using a false name and graduation papers;

C. Membership in the various branches of the organization;

D. Being in charge of unemployed high school dropouts in Esfahan;

E. Membership in the Central Committee of the high school-university students;

F. (?Financial aid) to the war-waging group, presence in street [words indistinct], passage through and residence in communal houses of the organization, money for which she was receiving from the organization;

G. Membership in the promotion committee of high school-university students in Esfahan;

H. Being in complete charge of the organization in Shahr-e Kord;

I. Planning and (?participating) in the assassination of Seyyed 'Ali Hoseyni who was murdered by the organization;

J. Being in charge of the communications between the Shiraz and Esfahan branches of the organization;

K. Complete control of the student department in Esfahan.

II. Hoseyn Okhovvat, son of Morteza, aliases Mohsen and Bizhan, born in 1958, a citizen of [name indistinct] in Sahreza and a resident of Esfahan, who was accused of uprising against the holy system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, city-wide activities for the so-called overthrow of the [word indistinct] and the following crimes:

A. Organizational contact with the U.S. Peykar minigroup from 1978; highly active support of the organization in the form of writing slogans, distribution of pamphlets, presence in street (?demonstrations), and propaganda on behalf of the armed battle of the groups against the Islamic Republic in Kordestan;

B. Receiving information, spying, and reporting on the internal conditions of the steel mill and its (?publication) in [name indistinct], steel mill, Peykar, and (?Fuladshahr) magazines;

C. Being in complete charge of the steel mill district, security requirements for same, accounting and military training;

D. Being the contact between the steel mill and Esfahan cells;

E. [Words indistinct] around the steel mill and [words indistinct] in the area of his responsibility;

F. Initiation of contact between the branches of the organization in Esfahan and Tehran;

G. Membership in the coordination and introduction teams of the organization;

H. Design and implementation of the assassination of Seyyed 'Ali Hoseyni;

I. Giving a great deal of financial support, thus strengthening the U.S. Peykar minigroup.

III. Hoseyn Meyyedsanaki, sone of 'Ali, using aliases Sa'id and Reza, born in 1959, a citizen and resident of Esfahan who was accused of active uprising against the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the following ways:

A. Organization contact with the war-waging Peykar minigroup from 1979;

B. Being the Central Committee's contact with organization's members in Esfahan;

C. Membership in the Central Committee of the organization in Shahre-e Kord;

D. Handling the logistics of the decadent group;

E. Printing and reproducing pamphlets and participation in general meetings;

F. Being in charge of a number of cells of the organization;

G. Membership in the promotion committee;

H. Strong support for the organization by collecting financial aid for the organization.

It is hoped that the rest of those individuals still deceived by this corrupt minigroup and all war-waging groups will soon learn their lesson and no longer remain the instruments of these groups, who are the puppets of the supercriminals of the East or the West, and give themselves up immediately.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 1,251

LD181746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Mar 83

[Communique No 1,251 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Offering condolences on the death anniversary of the beloved daughter of the prohpet of Islam, Her Holiness Siddiqah al-Kurbra Fatimah az-Zahra, peace by upon her, we hereby announce some of the events on the fronts of the fight between truth and falsehood over the past 24 hours.

Yesterday, the forces of Islam and the enemy forces exchanged heavey weapon-fire along most of the western front's operational zone. Our combatants pounded the Saddamists' positions and opened fire on the areas where the Iraqi troops were concentrated, inflicting losses and casualties. On many fronts, the vigilance of our forces foiled the activities of enemy patrols which were trying to penetrate our positions. The aggressors lost three trucks carrying servicemen. A number of trenches and foxholes in the western part of the country also were destroyed.

Yesterday in the Wal Fajr operational zone and on the southern fronts, fire continued to be exchanged and was more intense in the Faqih and Bayat areas. Our combative forces fired heavy weapons, damaged several vehicles, and set fire to several trenches of the Saddamists.

In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational areas, the forces of Islam yesterday returned fire on the enemy's assembly centers and on fortifications on the other side of the Arvand Rud; killing a number of Saddamist mercenaries. Several houses in Abadan caught fire and were destroyed by enemy shells.

During the past 24 hours, the tactical measures of our fighter aircraft and the fire from our air defense units foiled the attempts by Iraqi aircraft to intrude in our airspace and to make reconnaissance flights. The intruding aircraft fled.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,252

LD191100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Communique No 1,252 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Glory to the brave warriors of the corps of Islam who, by relying on divine succor and His hidden assistance, continue to deliver proudly and powerfully their final blows to the moribund and disintegrating body of the Saddamist forces in the last days of the year [ending 20 March 1983].

Muslim nation of Iran, in joint air and naval operations in the Persian Gulf, two war vessels of the Navy of the Bathist-Zionist Armed Forces of Iraq were destroyed at 1755 and 1819 yesterday.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRNA Report

LD191041 Tehran IRNA in English 1010 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Text] Tehran, March 19, IRNA -- In a joint operation conducted by the Air Force and the naval combatants of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Persian Gulf two enemy gunships were destroyed.

The Joint Staff Communique No. 1252 released today, further elaborated that the Iraqi gunships were hit and demolished at 17:55 and 18:19 hours Thursday.

Communique No 1,253

LD191819 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Mar 83

[Communique No 1,253 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Our dear compatriots hereby are informed of the current situation at the fronts of the imposed war. During the past 24 hours, sporadic battles in the form of exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued in most of the country's western fronts. With their fire, the able and powerful combatants of Islam destroyed two enemy vehicles and a number of foxholes and bunkers, halting enemy activities.

As a result of fire mounted by the powerful and mighty combatants of Islam on enemy positions in Panjwin and Khormal in the past 24 hours, a number of Iraqi Zionist mercenaries were destroyed and damage was inflicted on enemy installations. Intruding Iraqi aircraft yesterday mistakenly bombed the positions of their own units in the Marivan region. Enemy aircraft attempting to penetrate into the Saqqez region were driven off by the air defense units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Exchanges of fire also continued in the Bayat region, which resulted in a number of enemy vehicles and bunkers being set on fire.

On the southern fronts, the vigilant combatants of Islam continued to defend and consolidate their defensive positions. Enjoying the upper hand, they silenced the enemy fire. The City of Abadan yesterday experienced a relatively calm situation with no incidents occurring.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,254

LD201726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Mar 83

[Communique No 1,254 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. We hereby inform our dear compatriots of the developments in the battlefronts of the imposed war. During the past 24 hours, fighting continued on the western fronts with sporadic exchanges of fire between our powerful fighters and the Saddamist mercenaries. Our forces silenced enemy fire with their defensive fire and prevented any movement or operation by the blasphemous forces of Saddam, inflicting considerable blows upon them.

On the Marivan fronts, our forces opened fire on the positions of the forces of Saddam in Tutman, Khormal, and Rawshan regions and (Biyareh) Garrison, destroying three vehicles and a number of slit trenches with their occupants. In the southern fronts, exchanges of artillery fire and other heavy weapons fire continued. In Zayd, the exchange of fire was more intense. While defending the positions and regions under their protection, the fighters of Islam inflicted losses and casualties on the Iraqi forces by firing on them and sending out patrol groups. During exchanges of fire on the Khorramshahr and Abadan fronts, which was of greater intensity in the Pol-e Now region, losses and casualties were inflicted on the enemy forces by the fire of the forces of Islam. Abadan again yesterday came under the artillery fire of the criminal forces of Saddam. Aerial violations by Iraqi planes yesterday against western and southern border towns were repulsed by the self-sacrificing forces of the Air Force and the antiaircraft fire of our forces.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran